

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez (CA-47) today issued the following statement regarding the Federal Communication Commission's (FCC) decision to extend the agency's regulatory authority to broadband Internet. Under the new plan, the FCC could enforce rules preventing broadband providers from deliberately slowing or blocking Internet traffic for some consumers and content providers, but not others. The FCC would still not be able to regulate rates or content.

"I urge the Federal Communications Commission to move carefully and cautiously as it implements its regulations concerning the deployment and usage of broadband networks. As the Commission continues to work to establish relevant and timely rules to ensure broadband remains affordable and accessible, I am concerned about the effects this announcement may have on job creation and innovation.

"We have seen broadband grow tremendously over the last decade, allowing small businesses to flourish globally and individuals to connect with one another in their community. Through the encouragement of market competition and private investments, the Commission has allowed for Internet growth to take place, and my colleagues and I have been supportive of this effort.

"However, I have some concerns about the agency extending its regulatory authority to broadband networks. The Commission must weigh the impact of government regulation in an open and competitive Internet market, which has allowed innovation and private investment to prosper. Furthermore, I ask that the FCC continue to engage Congress on the issue of 'net neutrality' and allow us to set public policy moving forward."